## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 OC-06 CCO-00
SIL-01 LAB-04 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05
/083 W

-----076859 041741Z /44

R 040520Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3776
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL AUCKLAND BY POUCH
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
CINCPAC HONOLULU

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, NZ SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ENGINE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ENGINEERS STRIKE AGAINST AIR

NEW ZEALAND

1. REPORTS FROM AUCKLAND, SUPPORTED BY MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT HERE, INDICATE POSSIBILITY OF A STRIKE BY THE ENGINEERS UNION AGAINST AIR NEW ZEALAND. IN NEGOTIATIONS WHICH BEGAN AUGUST 2, ENGINEERS APPARENTLY MAKING EXCEEDINGLY HIGH DEMANDS, INCLUDING AN 80 PERCENT TO 110 PERCENT RISE IN WAGES AND A 35 HOUR WEEK, WHICH AIR NEW ZEALAND WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO MEET, PARTICULARLY AS IT WOULD TRIGGER FURTHER DEMANDS FROM PILOTS AND OTHERS FOR PARITY INCREASES.

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2. WHILE PRESIDENT OF ENGINEERS UNION ADVISED LABATT THAT CONDITIONS FOR STRIKE NOT CURRENTLY PRESENT AND WORK STOPPAGE OF ANY KIND CERTAINLY NOT IMMINENT, OTHERS CONNECTED WITH NEGOTIATIONS IN AUCKLAND BELIEVE CLIMATE FOR STRIKE BY ENGINEERS MORE SERIOUS. STOPPAGE, SHOULD ONE OCCUR, WOULD LIKELY NOT COME BEFORE SEPTEMBER AND COULD RANGE

FROM A TOKEN WALKOUT IN AUCKLAND ALONE TO A NATIONWIDE SHUTDOWN OF ALL INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL TRAFFIC. MILITARY FLIGHTS VIA CHRISTCHURCH WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE AFFECTED UNLESS ENGINEERS WERE JOINED BY OTHER UNIONS SUCH AS THOSE WHICH DELIVER FUEL TO THE AIRPORT.

3. MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT IS FULLY AWARE OF USG INTEREST IN THIS MATTER AND HAS PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED. WE WILL BE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY HERE AND IN AUCKLAND AND WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT. SELDEN

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: POSSIBLE ENGINEERS STRIKE AGAINST AIR NEW ZEALAND

TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, NZ, AIR NEW ZEALAND

To: STATE Type: TE

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